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## Calendar offers close-ups of powwow action

Missoula photographer Chris Roberts has introduced a new photo calendar, "Powwow Action," that features dancers "caught up-close in dynamic powwow action."

"Whereas the 2015 powwow calendar showcases portraits of participants on the powwow trail, Powwow Action ... captures the essence of their competitive skills in key moments of these athletic dance contests," Roberts says.

Roberts has been a dancer on the north-west powwow circuit for 47 years. He started photographing powwows seriously in the mid-1980s and is now a Chicken dancer in the Golden Age category.

"These calendars are a good resource for anyone interested in American Indian culture and the traditions of contemporary Indian country," he says.

Tide-Mark Press in Connecticut produces and markets the calendars nationally while Missoula's Meadowlark Media distributes the calendars in Montana and Indian country.

Call 888-728-2180 or email [info@powwowcountry.com](mailto:info@powwowcountry.com) for details.

## New documentary celebrates "Language of the Heart"

The Fort Peck Tribes Language and Culture Department premiered its documentary video, "Cante Etanhan Iapi" (Language of the Heart), on Nov. 13 in the historic Poplar Theater.

Faced with a dwindling number of Dakota (Sioux) and Nakoda (Assiniboine) language speakers, the department hopes the 36-minute film will inspire its 13,000 tribal members to learn and preserve the languages. Currently, there are only 25 Nakoda and 35 Dakota speakers remaining on the reservation.

The video highlights efforts being made to revitalize the languages among Fort Peck youth. A camera follows the summer immersion program as youngsters learn about their culture and history by traveling to the tribes' buffalo ranch and Little Bighorn Battlefield, gathering traditional foods and attending summer powwows. Included are interviews with some of the remaining language speakers.

"Cante Etanhan Iapi" sheds important light on our language and culture with the elders and youth," says Ramey Growing Thunder, the director of the Tribes' Language & Culture Department. "The elders are waiting to hear and help the youth with our language and culture. The youth are going to carry the message and our language and culture's future from the elders."

"All this happens because our ancestors are with us wherever we go and whatever we do. They are the ones making the connections," he added. "And it is Creator that's at work for all of us. How beautiful it is."

The video was funded by the Fort Peck Tribes and the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program. The program developed from Senate Bill 342, passed in the 2013 Legislative Session and sponsored by Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D-Box Elder), to help preserve and teach Montana's native languages on the state's seven Indian reservations.

For more information contact Growing Thunder at 406-768-3520 or [rgrowingthunder@gmail.com](mailto:rgrowingthunder@gmail.com), or Media Project Coordinator Rich Peterson at 406-768-3520, 406-768-8661 or [mtrichp@hotmail.com](mailto:mtrichp@hotmail.com).

## Lecture offers samples of Native music

For those interested in learning more about American Indian music, a great resource is Scott Prinzing, who works out of the Billings-based nonprofit organization, MusEco Media and Education Project ([www.MusEco.org](http://www.MusEco.org)).

In 2008, Prinzing worked with the Office of Public Instruction to write a curriculum guide and compilation CD about American Indian music. Since then, he has given countless presentations titled "American Indian Music: More Than Just Drums and Flutes," which have been supported primarily through Humanities Montana's Speaker in the Schools program.

To learn more about bringing this presentation to your school or community organization, visit [humanitiesmontana.org](http://humanitiesmontana.org).

## Off the Path anthology celebrates Native writers

*Off the Path: An Anthology of 21st Century Montana American Indian Writers, Vol. I*, edited by Adrian Jawort, offers uninhibited writing as stark as a wintry windblown Montana prairie that shivers through your skin and settles into your bones. The all-original and powerful works are both daring and bold.

With storytelling skills by some of Montana's premiere American Indian authors, as well as newly discovered scribes, readers are sure to find stories of life, love, hardship, and



Nellie Silk of Wolf Point, a fluent Dakota speaker, talks about a painting of her late grandfather, Chief Follows The Road, in the documentary film "Cante Etanhan Iapi" (Language of the Heart).

true beauty off the beaten path. In addition to Jawort, contributors include Cinnamon Spear, Luella N. Brien, Sterling HolyWhite-Mountain, and Eric Leland Bigman Brien.

For more information visit [www.offthepasspressllc.com](http://www.offthepasspressllc.com).

## In Memory of Misty Upham

Our condolences go out to the family of Blackfeet actress Misty Upham, who unexpectedly passed away Oct. 5, at the age of 32. While the circumstances around her death are tragic, they do not diminish all that she was able to accomplish in her lifetime.

She is best known for her role in the 2008 film "Frozen River," for which she was nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Female. In 2013, she appeared alongside Benicio del Toro as his love interest in the movie "Jimmy P: Psychotherapy of a Plains Indian."

Other career highlights include acting with Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts in "August: Osage County" and alongside Jennifer Aniston in the upcoming movie "Cake."

Upham was truly able to realize her dreams as an actress and she overcame many obstacles to live her passion. While she left this world too soon, we will never forget her.

## Museum of Plains Indian shows works by Paul Rowley

The Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning is featuring the work of artist Paul E. Rowley throughout Feb. 15 in "Woven Identities."

Rowley holds an MFA in creative writing from Pacific University and has been weaving words and cedar since 2008. He is an enrolled member of the Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. Currently, he lives in Portland, OR, where he works full time as an artist and poet.

His unique cedar creations began with a desire to create a hat that would reflect his indigenous heritage of the Pacific Northwest. A workshop with a Suquamish weaver introduced him to the basic technique of weaving cedar. From there he began to develop his own style of weaving while refining his millenary skills.

These unique cedar weavings reflect Rowley's Haida and Tlingit heritage, and he often incorporates other materials to highlight his Blackfeet and Cree heritage as well. He plays with identity through his many trib-

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al affiliations and with the traditional versus contemporary dichotomy through wearable art.

His woven cedar headwear is included the permanent collections of the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA, and the Autry Museum in Los Angeles. For more information, call the museum at 406-338-2230.

## Opportunities for Native artists

**National RES Las Vegas Artisan Fair:** Native American vendors showcase their wares to nearly 4,000 attendees from across the U.S and Canada during this major

artisan fair, held March 9-12 in Las Vegas.

The National RES event is the largest Native American business trade show in the country and provides an outstanding opportunity to network as well as showcase your products and services to Native American businesses and organizations, including tribal

governments and enterprises, federal agencies, corporations, tribal casinos, and Native American entrepreneurs and business owners.

RES Las Vegas has a limited number of artisan market booths available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve a space, visit [res.ncaied.org/artisan-booth/](http://res.ncaied.org/artisan-booth/).

## Eiteljorg Museum Indian Market and Festival:

Native performers and more than 150 artists from more than 60 tribes participate in this annual celebration of

Native American cultures through art, music, dance, demonstrations and food. This year's festival will take place June 27-28 in Indianapolis, IN; however the deadline to apply for the Native Art Market is Jan. 26.

This is a juried show, so applicants should submit the three best images of their work that they plan to show and sell at the mar-

ket. Categories are Paintings, Photography, Drawings and Prints, Sculpture, Basketry, Pottery, Weavings and Textiles, Dolls, Cultural Items, Jewelry and Beadwork.

Don't miss the opportunity to expand your horizons and participate in one of the most prestigious Native Art Markets in

the country!

For more information visit [www.eiteljorg.org/explore/festivals-and-events/indian-market-festival](http://www.eiteljorg.org/explore/festivals-and-events/indian-market-festival).

## Buying Native Clarification

In our last issue we informed readers about "buying Native" through the Native American Made in Montana products that are part of the Made In Montana (MIM) website, [www.madeinmontanausa.com](http://www.madeinmontanausa.com).

Please note that the Made In Montana website features many MIM products in addition to "Native American Made in Montana" products. To access Native-made products, visitors to the general site must click on the Native American Made in Montana link: [www.madeinmontanausa.com/nativeamericanmim.aspx](http://www.madeinmontanausa.com/nativeamericanmim.aspx).



Misty Upham  
(Photo by Jason LaVeris)



Woman's hat by Paul Rowley